animals in whole or any part thereof other than micro-organisms but including seeds, varieties and species. and essentially biological processes for production and propagation of plants and animals' are not patentable.

**Areas of wasteland**

†1884. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the areas of wasteland and degraded wasteland at present in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether any scheme has been formulated by Government for reclamation of the aforesaid lands and the targets fixed under this scheme;

(c) whether these targets have been achieved; if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of SEZs (Special Economic Zones) proposed to be developed in such degraded/wastelands in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) As per Wastelands Atlas of India 2005 prepared by Ministry of Rural Development and National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad, an area of 31,66,412 sq. kms. was surveyed out of 32,87,263 sq. kms. geographical area of the country for wastelands mapping. The area of surveyed wastelands in the country was 5,52,692.26 sq. kms. or 17.45 per cent of the surveyed geographical area in 2003. State-wise details of wastelands is given in Statement-I *(See* below).

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme for regeneration of degraded forests and adjoining forest lands. The Scheme is being implemented through two-tier decentralized mechanism of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at forest division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at village level. As on 31.3.2007, 729 FDA projects have been approved in all 28 States at a total cost of Rs. 1658.09 crores to cover project area of 9.36 lakh hectares through 24,215 JFMCs.

In addition to above, the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development is also implementing three area development programmes *i.e.* Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) on watershed basis for wasteland development, drought proofing and desertification control by rejuvenating the nature resource base. As per information made available by that Department, it has been decided to merge IWDP, DPAP and DDP schemes into a single Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) from 2007-08. An allocation of Rs.1201.00 crore, which includes Rs.86.46 crore for externally aided projects has been made for the programme during 2007-08.

• (d) and (e) As per information made available by the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, formal approval has been granted for setting

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

up of 366 Special Economic Zones (SEZs) since the SEZ Act, 2005 and SEZ Rules, 2006 came into effect on 10.2.2006. The total land area involved in these 366 SEZs is approximately 49,070 hectares. State-wise details of land involved are given in the Statement-II *(See* below). Decision to earmark land of various types for different purposes is taken by the respective State Governments in accordance with the policies laid down by them. However, the State Governments have been advised that in case of land required for SEZs, first priority should be for waste and barren land.

***Statement-I***

*State-wise total geographical area surveyed and wasteland area of the country as per Wasteland Atlas of India* 2005

| SI. No. | Name of State | Total Geographical area surveyed (sq. km.) | Wasteland area (sq. km.) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 275068.00 | 45267.15 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | 83743.00 | 18175.95 |
| 3 | Assam | 78438.00 | 14034.08 |
| 4 | Bihar | 94171.00 | 5443.68 |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 135194.00 | 7584.15 |
| 6 | Goa | 3702.00 | 531.29 |
| 7 | Gujarat | 196024.00 | 20377.74 |
| 8 | Haryana | 44212.00 | 3266.45 |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | 55673.00 | 28336.8 |
| 10 | Jammu and Kashmir | 101387.00 | 70201.99 |
| 11 | Jharkhand | 79706.00 | 11165.26 |
| 12 | Karnataka | 191791.00 | 13536.58 |
| 13 | Kerala | 38863.00 | 1788.80 |
| 14 | Madhya Pradesh | 308252.00 | 57134.03 |
| 15 | Maharashtra | 307690.00 | 49275.41 |
| 16 | Manipur | 22327.00 | 13174.74 |
| 17 | Meghalaya | 22429.00 | 3411.41 |
| 18 | Mizoram | 21081.00 | 4469.88 |
| 19 | Nagaland | 16579.00 | 3709.4 |
| 20 | Orissa | 155707.00 | 18952.74 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 21 | Punjab | 50362.00 | 1172.84 |
| 22 | Rajasthan | 342239.00 | 101453.86 |
| 23 | Sikkim | 7096.00 | 3808.21 |
| 24 | Tamil Nadu | 130058.00 | 17303.29 |
| 25 | Tripura | 10486.00 | 1322.97 |
| 26 | Uttar Pradesh | 240926.00 | 16984.16 |
| 27 | Uttaranchal | 53483.00 | 16097.46 |
| 28 | West Bengal | 88752.00 | 4397.56 |
| 29 | Union Territory | 10973.00 | 314.38 |
| | TOTAL: | 3166412.00 | 552692.26 |

***Statement-II***

*State-wise details of areas of wasteland*

| SI. No | Name of State/UT | No. of SEZs for which formal approval granted | Area in hectares |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 61 | 11485.93 |
| 2 | Chandigarh | 2 | 87.49 |
| 3 | Chhattisgarh | 1 | 10.77 |
| 4 | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 2 | 25.59 |
| 5 | Delhi | 2 | 16.06 |
| 6 | Goa | 7 | 371.24 |
| 7 | Gujarat | 29 | 11048.72 |
| 8 | Haryana | 29 | 1500.34 |
| 9 | Jharkhand | 1 | 36.00 |
| 10 | Karnataka | 36 | 2499.19 |
| 11 | Kerala | 11 | 569.65 |
| 12 | Madhya Pradesh | 8 | 311.59 |
| 13 | Maharashtra | 75 | 11439.14 |
| 14 | Nagaland | 1 | 400.00 |
| 15 | Orissa | 9 | 2299.36 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 16 | Pondicherry | 1 | 346.00 |
| 17 | Punjab | 6 | 273.49 |
| 18 | Rajasthan | 5 | 230.23 |
| 19 | Tamil Nadu | 53 | 4860.57 |
| 20 | Uttarakhand | 3 | 468.20 |
| 21 | Uttar Pradesh | 12 | 474.40 |
| 22 | West Bengal | 12 | 316.17 |
| | TOTAL : | 366 | 49070.13 |

**Amendment to Coastal Regulation Zone Norms**

1885. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coastal Regulation Zone Norms restricting construction activity close to the shore are likely to be amended;

(b) whether a draft notification in this regard is ready with Government;

(c) the essential provisions contained in the notification;

(d) whether all the coastal areas in the country are likely to be covered under the notification; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

**Amendment to Hazardous Waste Management Act**

1886. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any plan to tackle the menace of e-waste in the country;

(b) whether Government have assessed the damage caused to environment by dumping of old mobiles, fridges, ACs, PC circuit board, etc.;

(c) whether Government propose to bring any amendment to the Hazardous Waste Management Act;

(d) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has prepared any guidelines in the matter; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?